

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:CARR, CASC, TU

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: AMERICAN PRISONERS IN TURKEY

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR CONTINGENT USE
BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT NOON BRIEFING, TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

BEGIN TEXT:

Q: HAS THE US BEEN DISCUSSING WITH TURKEY A PRISONER TRANS-
FER TREATY, SIMILAR TO THE PACTS RECENTLY NEGOTIATED WITH
MEXICO AND CANADA ?

A: THERE ARE PRESENTLY FIVE AMERICANS INCARCERATED IN
TURKEY: AS IN THE CASE OF OTHER AMERICANS IMPRISONED ABROAD,
THE DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUED TO FOLLOW WITH CONCERN THE FATE
OF AMERICANS INCARCERATED IN TURKEY AND TO SEEK A SATISFAC-
TORY LEGAL MECANISM FOR SECURING THEIR TRANSFER TO THE US
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TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THEIR SENTENCES. IN THIS CONNEC-
TION- WE PROPOSED SOME MONTHS AGO TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT
A PRISONER TRANSFER TREATY SIMILAR TO THE ONE CONCLUDED WITH
MEXICO. IN RESPONSE TO THESE EFFORTS, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT
HAS RECENTLY INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE A BI-
LATERAL TRANSFER TREATY, BASED ON THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON
THE INTERNATIONAL VALIDITY OF CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS. OUR LEGAL

EXPERTS ARE CAREFULLY REVIEWING THE TERMS OF THE CONVENTION

AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL COMMENCE IN THE
NEAR FUTURE. END TEXT.

2. QUESTION OF AMERICAN PRISONERS IN TURKEY DID NOT RPT
NOT ARISE DURING BRIEFING. WE HAVE INFORMED TURKISH
EMBASSY HERE OF OUR CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE, WHICH WE
DO NOT RPT NOT PLAN TO USE UNLESS ASKED. VANCE

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